

Transportation

The Committee met on March 24, 2009.

Rail Car Maintenance Related Revenue Cap Overcharges. Presently the WGRF is holding the overcharges and penalties from CN and CP in trust. The railways are appealing the decision to the Supreme Court.

Level of Service Review. Stage one of the service review is currently being carried out. The process has been slow as the railways have not been fully cooperative in providing information to the consulting firm doing the data collection. The shipper survey should be underway in early spring and KAP expects to be included in this process in some capacity. It is unlikely that the panel will be selected by the end of summer and even less likely that their recommendations will be available for comment by the 09/10 crop year.

Revenue Cap. KAP submitted comments on the Volume-Related Composite Price Index for the 2009-10 crop year. There is little appetite by government to introduce a full costing review until the service review is complete.

Rail Line Abandonment and Sale. KAP is meeting with the Minister of State responsible for transportation on the issue of rail line abandonment and sale at the end of April. There is work being done to develop a joint position with AMM on the issue as well.

Overhead Hydro Lines. Hydro has been in contact with KAP about new permitting systems for moving over-height equipment and will be using KAP publications to inform producers about the changes.

Load Securement. KAP will be working with the province and potentially PAMI to assess the need for securing straw bales and tarping silage for transport at low speeds.

Committee Members. Robert McLean (Chair), Alvin DePauw, Calvin Gust, Les Felsch, Reg Dyck, Wilfred Harder. Staff Resource: James Battershill.

Keystone Agricultural Producers - The Voice of Manitoba Farmers